

heavy demand for travel of various VIPs which included Union Minister, Members of Parliament and Speaker and Ministers of Bihar Government. Due to heavy rush, the Emergency Quota controlling staff inadvertently failed to allot accommodation to Shri Ram Deo Bhandary, MP. For this lapse, suitable action is being taken against the staff concerned.

Reported Forfeiture of Berth of a Women Passenger

@ 2307. SHRI RAM DEO BHANDARY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government's attention has been drawn towards the newsitem published in the 'Navbharat Times' on 24th July, 2000 under the caption "Kam Umra ka batakar mahila railyatri kee berth cheen lee";
- (b) if so, the comprehensive details thereof; and
- (c) whether Government have taken any action in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) As per Press report, a lady passenger, aged 20 years had confirmed reservation in Coach Number S-5 of Vikramshila—Magadh Express leaving Bhagalpur on 20.7.2000. The Coach Travelling Ticket Examiner (TTE) allegedly compelled her to leave her reserved berth on the ground that she did not appear to be 20 years old and allotted the same berth to some other passenger after collection of some amount unauthorisedly. The TTE reportedly did not listen to the plea of the passenger and insisted on purchase of another ticket leading to harassment of the party.

(c) The matter is under investigation by Eastern Railway.

Procurement of Locomotives and Coaches

2308. SHRI BHAGATRAM MANHAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

@ Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.

- (a) whether Government have placed orders for purchase of locomotives and coaches for Shatabdi Express and Rajdhani Express trains from a German firm;
- (b) if so, what are the complete details of such purchases with the price-tag of locomotives/coaches;
- (c) whether any tender procedure was adopted for procurement of locomotives and coaches;
- (d) if so, what are the names of foreign companies which participated in the global tender, with their prices and other details; and
- (e) how much Government are likely to spend on the purchase of locomotives and coaches during the next two years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) Indian Railways have not placed orders for purchase of locomotives and coaches from any foreign firm during 1999-2000 and 2000-2001. Earlier also no order was placed for purchase of locomotives from any German firm. However, order was placed for procurement of coaches on a German firm viz. M/s. Linke Hoffman Busch (LHB), Germany in October 1995 and contract is under execution. These coaches are suitable for Shatabdi Express.

(b) Order for procurement of 24 nos. all metal light weight high speed coaches was placed on M/s. LHB, Germany in October 1995 at total FOB cost of DM 58.52 million which was later reduced to DM 52.66 million. Transfer of Technology contract was at a cost of DM 20.9 million.

(c) Global Tenders were floated for procurement of these coaches.
(d) The Global Tender No. 85/RSF/P-142 (GP-122) was floated for procurement of All Metal High Speed Light Weight Coaches. The following seven firms had participated in the Global Tender.

- (i) M/s. Linke Hoffman Busch/West Germany
- (ii) M/s. De Dietrich/France

- (iii) M/s. Sumitomo Corporation/Japan
- (iv) M/s. Gosa Commerce, Beograd/Yugoslavia
- (v) M/s. British Rail Engg/UTDC/UK
- (vi) M/s. Fiat Ferroviaria Saviglianico/Italy and
- (vii) M/s. Alsthom/France.

The price details of the two technically acceptable offers are indicated below: Description of

items	Qty	Total FOB value (in million DM)	Fiat/Italy	LHB/Germany
(i) AC Chair Cars	21	52.29		51.35
(ii) Generator-cum- Brake Vans	3	7.32		7.17
Total Value in Rs. crore at current rate of exchange	59.61 131.1	58.52 128.7		

After considering all the aspects, the contract was placed on lowest technically acceptable offerer viz. M/s. Linke Hoffman Busch, Germany in October 95 at a total value of DM 58.52 million which was later reduced to DM 52.66 million.

(e) The likely expenditure to be incurred on purchase of coaches from Germany during the next two years is as follows:

2000-2001	Rs. 164 crore (for procurement of coaches)
2001-2002	Nil

There is no order for purchase of locomotives on German firm as stated in reply to part (a) above.